

We claim:

1. A sounding cup, comprising:

(a) a bottom and side wall joined together to form a drinking vessel for holding a liquid;

(b) a sensor formed with either of said bottom and side walls for detecting liquid disturbance in said vessel;

(c) a control circuit operatively connected to said sensor and adapted for generating a signal output in response to liquid disturbance in said vessel; and

(d) a loudspeaker carried by either of said bottom and side wall, and activated by said signal output for producing outwardly radiating acoustical energy in a frequency range sufficient to be heard by a user.

2. A sounding cup according to claim 1, wherein said bottom comprises a removable base defining a compartment for storing said loudspeaker.

3. A sounding cup according to claim 1, and comprising a battery cooperating with said signal output to operate said loudspeaker.

4. A sounding cup according to claim 1, wherein said side wall is formed of plastic.

5. A sounding cup according to claim 4, and comprising a radio magnetic frequency shield embedded in said plastic side wall to protect said sensor from external interference.

6. A sounding cup, comprising:

(a) a bottom and side wall joined together to form a drinking vessel for holding a liquid;

(b) a sensor formed with either of said bottom and side wall, and comprising a clock signal defining a base level capacitance in said vessel;

(c) a control circuit operatively connected to said sensor and adapted for generating a signal output in response to a threshold change in said base level capacitance; and

(d) a loudspeaker carried by either of said bottom and side wall, and activated by said signal output for producing outwardly radiating acoustical energy in a frequency range sufficient to be heard by a user.